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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 4 March 1948

SUBJECT Official SED Attitude towards
Strikes in the Western Zones

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In formulating its official position on the question of the recent
wave of strikes in the western zones, the Central Secretariat of
the SED stated that these strikes were of an almost exclusively
economic nature and that political factors appear to have played a
negligible role in their development. This is a clear indication
that the labor unions in the West are losing sight of the purpose
for which they were originally founded, that is, to struggle for
the rights of the working classes; they have become mere "title-
bearers" of American labor unions and even go so far as to accept
assistance from the entrepreneurs themselves. The Central Secretariat
stated that unless the labor movement in the West once more becomes
conscious of its political mission and strives to extend the dis-
satisfaction of the masses to political questions, Communist aims
will not be realized.

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